



THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
Founded in 1930

VOL. 64

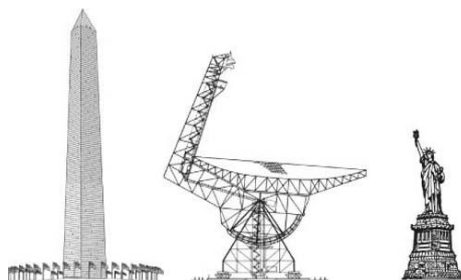
March 2012

NO. 7

Quiet Please, We're Trying to Listen!

By Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC

This month's meeting presentation is something out of this world, literally. No, it's not about E.T. phoning home, but rather it is about that gigantic radio telescope located near Green Bank, West Virginia. Did you know that it is the National Radio Astronomy Observatory Wilson Stadium, and more than 1.5 times taller than the Statue of Liberty? Impressive! We as hams know this geographical area because it is a National Radio Quiet Zone created to minimize possible harmful interference to the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRSO) as well as the radio receiving facilities for the United States Navy in Sugar Grove, WV.



Our presenter this month is Martin Pepe, who is an Adjunct Professor of Astronomy Division of Natural Science and Mathematics, Smith Science Center. He has taught astronomy at the college level for over 11 years. He is the co-author of 'Project SCOPE', an ongoing astronomy education program for middle & high school teachers in Western NY. In his career he's worked on landing systems for aircraft, medical trauma equipment and on some of the very first color copiers and early laser printers for Xerox through to the latest digital imaging science and electro-optics, involving lasers, electronics, and detectors. Additionally, he continues to develop specialized instruments for astronomy, including CCD cameras, optics, Spectrometers, Photometers, and high speed Video. Creator of multiple invention proposals and patents, he's taught engineering, science, and math at the corporate level for over 20 years. He's been involved in astronomy for the last 18+ years, and is both a past Program Director and a past Vice Chair of the Rochester Academy of Science - Astronomy Section.



Come join us for an interesting evening in the discovery of Radio Astronomy, from the basic principles of electromagnetic radiation, images of celestial objects in other than visible light, to the largest movable object on the planet.

This month in the RaRa RAG...

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RARA Meeting March 2, 2012 7:30PM

Henrietta Fire Co. #1
3129 East Henrietta Rd. (15A)



The Prez Sez

By Frank Schramm, WB2PYD
President, RaRa

Wow... I just got home from the RaRa Winterfest; what a great party it was. I always enjoy seeing everyone, and having a casual chat. The snowy weather definitely gave us that wintery feeling and the roaring fire was a welcome old friend. I'd like to extend a special thanks to everyone who brought something to eat – as usual we always have an abundance of awesome eats! Congratulations to Ryan Hamill, KD2AWP, for winning First Place in the crock-pot cook-off. Ryan took up the challenge by Gary Skuse, KA1NJL, to create a crock-pot pizza. It was obviously quite good since it was voted 1st prize by everyone. Second prize was Tim Brown's, WB2PAY, spicy meatballs. Third place was a tie between pulled pork made by Sue Waterstraat, KC2SUE; Tuscan soup made by Jay (and I suspect Sabrina) Hamill, KC2TCM and WD2STK; and pulled pork made by Trista Hamill. I should have taken notes to make a complete list but some of the other outstanding crock-pot entries were chicken breast stew, pork ragu with ziti, everyone's favorite chili, and a cheeseburger soup. We also had pizza, K2SI chicken wing dip, and mega-munchies. Forgive me if I missed any, but I think those of you who didn't attend get an idea of what you missed!

There were just too many desserts to even try to list here. We had a tie for the most favorite homemade dessert. It was a draw between: The most amazing carrot cake made by Nancy Marinucci, KC2VJV, and "Glam Ham" cookies made by Kim Hollingsworth, KC2ZLV; Maria Delle Fave, KD2AZE; and honorary "Glam Hams" Chris Delle Fave, KC2YSO, and Bob Shewell, N2HJD. I must explain... first our "Glam Hams" are a group of ladies who have started a net and meet on the Megaplex repeater system on the first and third Monday evenings – they welcome all ladies to check-in and chat (see article elsewhere in this issue). I love the energy and enthusiasm of these ladies; check them out - it's contagious! Secondly, the cookies... they were as much fun to look at as they were to eat! They were heart shaped cut out cookies (for Valentine's Day) frosted and decorated with electronics symbols, antennas, towers, the RaRa logo, and some even had the Morse code message: "eat me." Look for more from our "Glam Hams"... a little bird tells me there's going to be lots of "Glam Ham" wares at the Hamfest!

It was great to meet some of our newest members, as well as re-visit with member's families that I only get to see at our semi-annual social events. Considering this was only our second Winterfest and how much it has grown, our Board of Directors may need to evaluate a larger venue for next year! If you didn't attend Winterfest 2012, re-read what you missed and I'm sure I'll see you there next year!

73 and happy DXing.
Frank
WB2PYD

ROCHESTER HAMFEST *and* TECHNOLOGY EXPO June 30th 2012 at RIT

Rochester Hamfest and Technology Expo Features:

- Weatherproof! – 60,000 square feet of air conditioned indoor flea market & vendors
- Tailgating on pavement
- Close to the Thruway with an on-site hotel
- Indoor setup 7-9 am
- Tailgate setup 6:30 am
- Doors open at 9 am!

Visit the website
(www.RochesterHamfest.com) for
up-to-date and late breaking news
and photos of the new venue!

**Mark your calendars:
Saturday June 30th!**

**FREE Admission for
RaRa Members!**



Rag-Chew

Editor's Thoughts & Comments
By Kevin Carey, WB2QMY
Editor@RochesterHam.org

We're pleased to welcome a new advertiser to this issue of the *RARA Rag*, **Debbie Adams of Mouseketrips.com**. Are you planning a trip to go see the Mouse? Get expert planning advice from Debbie. What's more, she is no stranger to ham radio. Her dad is Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ, and she recalls helping to stuff the *RARA Rag* at her house as a child along with other RARA members!

Did you know you can maintain your own profile on RARA website? Non-members can now add themselves to the mailing list for *Rag* delivery using the Documents page at: <http://www.rochesterham.org/Documents.htm>.

Are you a RARA member who's changing your e-mail address? No problem. Updates can be made by logging on to <http://www.rochesterham.org/Membership-Data.aspx>. Want to check your membership status? That can be done using the real-time membership roster at <http://www.rochesterham.org/Membership.htm>.

Jon Dickason, N2JAC wrote wondering how many others might be reading their *Rag* on something other than a full PC screen. He's been working with several Kindle and tablet-type gadgets and can convert the *Rag* to eBook formats. He may present a future article on how to get the PDF version onto these gadgets. In the meantime he has offered to help anyone needing assistance. If you need help or want to discuss e-reader options with Jon, you can reach him at jondickason@yahoo.com.

Paul Jacobs, W2IOG, sent along a link to an online podcast called **Soldersmoke** that can be reached at www.soldersmoke.com. The podcasts and accompanying blog are run by Bill Meara, N2CQR. He's with the U.S. Diplomatic Service and he has lived (and operated) all over the world. He's based in Northern Virginia right now. Bill is a home-brewer with no formal technical education. He gets his circuits from books and magazine articles and he often asks his readers/listeners for help. It is great fun to follow him as he muddles through, Paul reports.

The associated blog is packed with interesting articles and links. For example, "The father of the CK722," two videos from Australian hams, an article about the history of WLW, the 500 kW AM station in Cincinnati, and the connection with Crosley. There is also a link to the complete *CQ Magazine* archives.

That's it from The Editor's desk, and I hope you enjoy this issue of the *RARA Rag*!

73, and best DX.

Calendar of Events

- Mar 2** RaRa General Meeting – 7:30
Henrietta Fire Hall,
3129 E. Henrietta Rd
- Mar 7** RaRa Board of Directors
5:30 PM, RIT
Engineering Hall, Room 2110
- Mar 17** RaRa VE Testing sessions
10:00 AM, RIT
Gleason Hall, Room 3139

Silent Key

Allen C. Mercer
K2EGU
February 13, 2012

Winter Cabin Party, February 11, 2012

By Len Crellin, KC2PCD

We all awoke to the season's first real snowstorm, so we all knew it was going to be a perfect day to hang up some wire, cook up some fine vittles and meet in a cabin with a nice wood fireplace. Gary Skuse, KA1NJL did a fantastic job of coordinating this year's party and coming up with the idea to have some operating positions in place when everyone arrived.

Gary's go box had a Yaesu FT-100 hooked up to a 20-meter dipole that Bob, AC2HJ and Larry helped get up. He had several European contacts during the day, and really enjoyed the DX. There was also a RTTY setup by Freddie, WB2GFZ that proved a new experience for many who watched the waterfall for the first time. Bill, WB2GHC had a FT-817 QRP rig hooked up to an easily portable vertical tuned to 20 meters. It provided some surprising reception of several of the QSO parties that were being run this day. Thanks to everyone who put in the extra effort to add another fun activity to the party.

Of course the highlight of the party was the food! Crockpots were stewing a wide variety of dinners from spicy meatballs to Ryan's (KD2AWP) crockpot pizza; a first for most of us...and the first place prize of 50 membership points by vote of all the attendees! Thanks goes out to everyone who spent so much time preparing their favorite dish for the rest of us to share. After several trips to the crockpot area (we had to try them all didn't we?), it was time to look around for the many dessert treats that were prepared for us. The delicious and beautifully decorated carrot cake by Nancy, KC2VJV was a crowd favorite as were the wonderfully creative "Glam Ham" heart shaped cookies with calls, antennas and even a CW message

as decorations. Thanks for all the hard work Chris, Maria, Kim and Bob. We will be excited to see your booth at the June 30th Hamfest. Thanks also to all the others who brought desserts. I personally tried four different ones and I hardly scratched the surface of the offerings. Yummy! It was most enjoyable to socialize with old and new friends and enjoy the renewal of an annual event that had been forgotten for many years.

Special thanks to Frank and Lisa Schramm who put in so much time and effort behind the scenes to ensure that all the supplies and beverages were purchased and delivered before we all arrived, then packed it all up to be put into storage for the summer picnic.

If you were there, spread the word about how much you enjoyed it and if you were unable to come this time, try to book next year's date as soon as we announce it. We are already discussing some new tweaks to make this an even more enjoyable reason to be a member of RARA. If you have any ideas to pass along, please do so to any Board member. Our contact information is on the RARA website.





Cabin Party photos are courtesy of Brad Allen, KB2CHY

RaRa VE News

By Ken Hall, W2KRH

The VE team offers regular test sessions on the **third Saturday of each month until April**, in Room 9-3139 at RIT. The final test session will be held at the 2012 Hamfest at RIT on June 30th. If you have any questions on VE testing please contact me at ken@w2krh.com.

Meeting Prizes!

Jay Hamill, KC2TCM
Sabrina Hamill, WD2STK

March's RARA raffle prizes are being modeled by our very own B-Dub (Think: Black & White). She's usually glad to help out when she can! The first prize is a **TSM IC FM radio kit**. This kit tunes in the standard broadcast band and includes a 10-watt amplifier. The next prize is a **Greenlee non-contact voltage detector**. It detects voltages from 50V-1000 VAC, from 50-500Hz. Finally, we have a **Gigaware notebook stand**. It holds your notebook computer at an angle for better viewing and features a 4 port USB hub. Disclaimer: Cute, fuzzy kitty is not included in the raffle.

Ham Tech

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI

Repeaters are a beautiful thing only if you know they exist. Fortunately there are people out there that put together lists of these repeaters. These lists will note the listening frequency, the offset direction, and the PL tone if needed. Below are links for a local repeater listing, a repeater council listing for the east side of Rochester, a listing for the west side of Rochester, a website with a national listing, and finally a book published by the ARRL.

Local Repeater Listing:

<http://www.rochesterhamfest.org/Documents/Rochester%20Area%20Repeater%20Listing.pdf>

Upper New York Repeater Council, Inc.:

<http://www.unyrepco.org/>

Western New York - Southern Ontario Repeater Council:

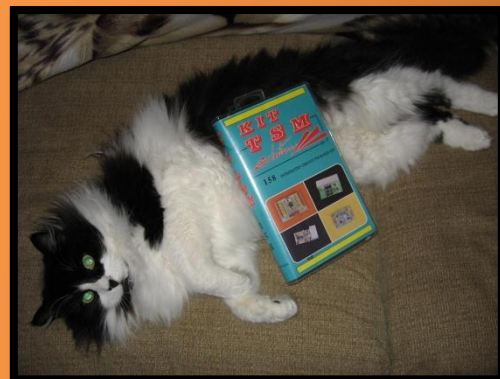
<http://www.wnysorc.org/>

Amateur-Radio.Net:

<http://rptr.amateur-radio.net/>

ARRL Repeater Directory:

<http://www.arrl.org/shop/The-ARRL-Repeater-Directory-Desktop-Edition>



RARA Academy #5!

By Duane Fregoe, K2SI

RARA Academy #5 is being planned for Saturday April 14, 2012. It will be at the RIT Campus on Jefferson Road, Building #9 (Gleason Building), Room #3139. This is the same room that RARA uses for monthly license testing. The class will start at 9:00 AM.

This Academy will be an antenna building project. We will be building a tape measure antenna commonly used for fox hunting. A kit will be supplied for each attendee and we will assemble them. A quick lesson in fox hunting will be offered and then we will put the new antennas to the test. There are plenty of great places to hide a transmitter on the RIT campus.



RaRa Membership / ID Card Reminder

Deadline: April 1st 2012

The new permanent membership / ID cards will be ordered soon so be sure your membership is current and your name and call sign are listed correctly. If you prefer to have your ID printed with something other than your formal first name log on to (<http://www.rochesterham.org/Membership-Data.aspx>) and edit your record; enter a "nick name" and that's what will appear on your ID. If you're not sure your membership is current you can search the membership roster at (<http://www.rochesterham.org/Membership.htm>). If you're not in the list, you're not a current member and won't be included in this order. So join or renew TODAY! Subsequent card orders will be as needed... maybe twice a year.

So be sure you're current and your data is accurate before April 1st!



New home of the Rochester Hamfest – The Gordon Field house at RIT!!!



DXing Tips

Submitted by Bill Hopkins, AA2YV

While reading online about the HKØNA DXpedition station on Malpelo Island, Bill Hopkins, AA2YV, found the following advice about QSOing with them. We offer it here because much of it can be applied to DXing in general.

DXers who follow these guidelines will be several steps ahead of the masses...

- Our Goal is to provide every station in the World the opportunity to make at least one QSO, and to enable top DXers to put our call sign in their log on as many bands and modes as possible.
- First, make sure you can copy us well enough for a good QSO. If signals are poor, would it be better to wait a while for better propagation? It can be very embarrassing to you for us to call you when you can't hear us.
- Unless otherwise noted, we will utilize split operation only. This means you cannot succeed by calling on our frequency. We aren't listening there. Be very careful to set up your transceiver so that you do not call on our transmit frequency. You must find where we are listening and then pick your next transmitting frequency accordingly.
- Our operators will try hard to work everyone in the world. Some areas will require more effort than others. Listen carefully to determine if we are trying to work a particular geographical area. Call if you are in that area. We will not respond to callers who are not in that area. If you are not in the desired area, spend the waiting time studying the pileup procedure of the operators.
- Call only if we are calling your exact call sign, if we are calling a very similar call sign or if we are asking for anyone to call. One matching letter in your call sign is NOT enough! Listen to the pileup again, and wait for the next opportunity to call. We will not respond to calls from stations other than those we are addressing. Keep in mind that many DXpedition operators may be hearing you even if they don't respond. You could earn a bad reputation in this way.
- If you do not hear who has been called, listen for a short time as the operator will probably call again. You don't want to miss his second call. When in doubt, DO NOT call, but rather try to determine the correct procedure. You will be far more successful by listening more and transmitting less.
- Be sure you have made a good QSO. If you aren't sure, make another QSO. It is best not to send a report until the operator sends your call sign correctly. If the operator does not send your call sign correctly, make another QSO. He may have actually worked someone else.
- Reiterating, we will not work stations who are:
 - Calling out of turn – when we are trying to work someone else.
 - Calling out of the called area – study the pileup and wait for your turn.
 - Calling with an obviously wrong partial call sign – use the time to study the pileup.
- These simple guidelines are intended to help you to get into our log quickly. They are consistent with our intended operating procedure. If you call the way we expect you to call, it makes sense that you will be in the log more easily and more often.
- We understand that no one is perfect, and that everyone will make mistakes. Keep your own house in order; make sure to minimize your own mistakes. Don't get frustrated. Our operators are some of the best in the World. Summon your greatest self-control, and let us deal with the others. Soon, you will be in the log.

Scanning Report: FRS Monitoring

By Jim Sutton, N2OPS

Want to hear some really different communications where anything goes? Then put the 14 Family Radio Service or FRS frequencies in your scanner. These UHF frequencies are used by low power hand held transceivers with meager power ranging from 1/10 to 1/2 watt.

Many units make bizarre sounds lending a toy-type sound to the communications. And some intercoms can also be found on these frequencies.

Even though they are not intended for business use, many businesses can be found on FRS frequencies.

Channels 1-7 are shared with the General Mobile Radio Service GMRS which is the next level up with more power and requires a license.

Many FRS units use CTCSS tones for privacy from listening to other users. It is misunderstood by some users to mean that they cannot be heard.

These 14 frequencies are a must for handheld scanners at special events such as fairs, carnivals, and other attractions. There is often continuous traffic of every imaginable type.

FCC on FRS

<http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/family-radio-service-frs>

FRS Radios

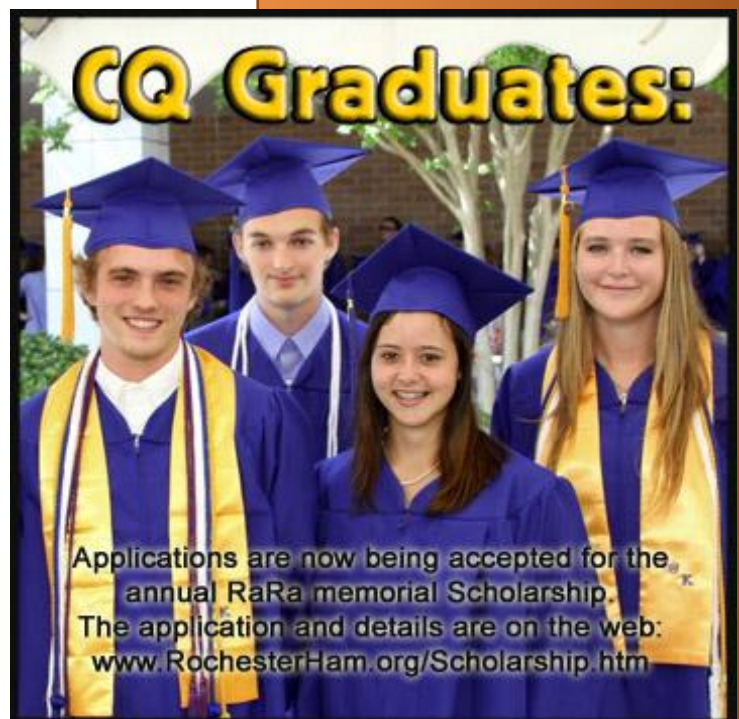
<http://www.frsradios.com/>

In the next *RARA Rag* we will look at the General Mobile Radio Service GMRS.

Until next time, 73 to thee.



Typical FRS Radios Available Today



RARA Rags of the Past

By Ed Gable, K2MP
RaRa Historian

20 Years Ago, March, 1992

With spring on its way and the thoughts of antennas and Field Day preparations, we should have a program on antennas, thought VP and program chair Lloyd Caves, WB2EFU. Lloyd found a fine presenter in the form of Jim Taylor, W2OZH, of Webster. Jim has published over 20 articles on antennas with topics such as *Resonant Feed Line Dipoles*, *An 80 Meter Phased Array* and many others. The venue was the 40 & 8 Club on University Avenue.

RaRa President Pete Secrist, WB2SUN, penned a short article introducing the new licensing classes and reminding readers of the event one year ago, the 1991 Ice storm. And that was it, just two local articles, the rest being eight pages of filler from news services and other out of town ham newsletters. Remember, support your *RaRa Rag*, it's a winner. From the Want Ads you would find Dave, KA2BOK, looking for a used FT-747 all mode six meter rig. A new commercial advertiser was Scientific Radio Systems, 367 Orchard Street, looking to fill technical and marketing positions.

40 Years Ago, March, 1972

"The Basics of FM" was the program for the evening presented by RaRa's Technical Consultant, Mr. Joe Hood, K2YAH. At the popular Monroe County Farm and Home Center venue, Joe presented an entertaining and informative program that was well received. News from the ARRL affecting RaRa was that League president Harry Dannals, W2UTK, would be at the Rochester Hamfest on May 12 and 13. Other ARRL news was that Henry Blodgett, W2UTH and Harold Smith, WA2KND, were reappointed as Atlantic Division Assistant Directors.

This issue reported on the highly successful RaRa Valentine Dinner Dance, as reported by the inventor of the event, some eleven years earlier, Cappy Capauldy, K2UXF. Al Mumby, WB2MCP, wrote to remind people that RaRa had a lending program where members could sign out electronic test equipment; voltmeters, signal generators, and the like, by contacting Al. He further informed members that Earl Gasser, W2ECY, additionally added a Swan Cygnet HF transceiver to the lending program.

The Rochester VHF Group news was reported by John Lucas, WA2BEH, who thanked all of the VHF contest participants who turned in 76 logs for a total of 173,000 points. The local winner was Chuck Oneske, K2YCO, with 212 Q's and 18 ARRL sections. (No Grid Squares back then – Ed) Writing for RARRA was Ed Gable, W2MPM, who reported that Len Gessin, WA2ZNC and Joe Hood, K2YAH, were recently elected to the association's Rules Committee. Ed went on to report that the repeater had to be monitored and controlled 24/7 (today's terminology) by a licensed Control Operator. During the day that task was mostly performed by Joan Vogt, WA2YTK. Joan, and other controllers, had a 220 MHz link transmitter that could disable the repeater when things went bad. Sandy Marston, WA2CUZ, was another day time monitor. From the Want Ads you could buy a converted BC-348 receiver from Hogie, K2RIS. Rochester Radio Supply at 140 West Main Street remained a long time advertiser and Saturday morning hangout for locals.

Questions,
Comments?
Call the

RaRa Hotline
(585)
210-8910
24 Hours a Day



In case you missed the last meeting...

Photos courtesy of Brad Allen, KB2CHY



Note that the fluorescent lamp is being lit by the spark energy alone; the light switches in the room were turned off!



Our February presenter, Jamie Oliver (KF2B) drawing an impressive arc with an umbrella!

News from our friends at other area clubs...

Editor's Note: Free press is available for your club! We welcome brief updates and meeting notices from all area ham clubs. Just send your input to editor@rochesterham.org. When preparing your article, please remember to keep it short, and assume that readers know nothing about your club. The article should be focused toward non-members, and not your own current members... that's what your own newsletter is for! We hope all area clubs will take advantage of this opportunity to interest new members in joining their ranks. 73, -Kevin

Monroe County ARES / RACES News

By Jim DiTucci, N2IXD

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. All ARES / RACES members and non-member Amateur Radio Operators are welcome and encouraged to attend. The next ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, March 22, 2012, at 7:00 PM.** Meetings are held at the **Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.** (Located behind the Rochester Auditorium Theatre, 885 Main St. E.)

ARES NET: Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 9:00 pm, on the 146.61 MHz. (-) 110.9 Hz PL repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

NBEMS: Want to learn about Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS)? It's the latest and easiest way to "Go Digital!" Bring your laptop computer and 2-meter handheld transceiver. We will conduct an NBEMS clinic after every meeting through June 2012.

RRRA News

By Brad Allen, KB2CHY

RRRA will hold its annual auction on March 16th at 8:00PM. Ed Gable will be our Auctioneer for the evening. Doors will open at 7:15 to give everyone a chance to set up and look over the merchandise. This is our fundraiser for the year, so I am asking everyone to make it a good one. Please leave any real junk at home or otherwise discard it. Anything not sold is your responsibility to remove.

RRRA membership is a must for this auction, so please be prepared. Our February meeting was about the features of the local Megaplex system by N2HJD. Thanks, and hope to see a great turnout at the auction.

GVARA News

By Billy Boyd, N3DSP

The Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Association holds meetings on the 4th Sunday of the month, 6:30pm at the Livingston County Government Center in Geneseo. Our next meeting will feature a program on scanners and scanning by Rag columnist Jim Sutton, N2OPS. We invite you to visit our website at www.gvara.org.



Glam Hams: On a Repeater Near You!

Please join Maria, KD2AZE, the host of the *Glam Hams*, a Ham Radio Net for women in the Rochester area. The net meets at 8 pm on the first and third Mondays of each month on the Megaplex Repeater system. These repeaters are linked together; therefore, all ladies can join in on *any* the following frequencies:

147.225 Brockport
146.925 Irondequoit
442.925 Macedon
442.800 Rochester
444.700 Irondequoit
442.900 West Bloomfield

For the offset and tone to each of the above repeaters and for other information concerning the *Glam Hams* net, go to <http://glamhams.org/netmeeting.htm>. The group's main web page is at <http://glamhams.org/lr.htm>.

The objective of this net is to bring women hams together to chat about whatever interests us, to learn a few ham radio techniques, and to conquer our fear of the microphone—without any pressure! Maria would love to have some of us share the role of Net Control Operator if we are so inclined. Please pass this notice along to any female ham operators you know in the area and encourage them to join us.

Drumlins ARC News

The Wayne County-based Drumlins club is now set up under the Laurel VEC, and had its first exam session on February 13th at the Wayne County EOC in Lyons. We have a new Extra class amateur, Vernon J. Kunes Jr., N2YZS. Below is a picture of Vern receiving the good news from Sabrina, WD2STK!

In other Drumlins news, the club will hold its **26th Annual Hamfest on April 14th** at the usual location: The Marletown Firehall in Newark, NY. Doors open at 7 AM for vendors; 8 AM for the public. Directions: From Rt. 31, proceed 1 mile South on Rt. 88 to Silver Hill Road and turn left. Proceed approximately 1 mile east to the Marletown Firehall. Talk-In is on the 146.685 MHz repeater. Complete information can be found on the Drumlins website at: www.drumlinsarc.org/hamfest.htm.

RaRa Club LOGO Items



Don't feel left out- get your RaRa logo items today!

<http://www.rochesterham.org/logo.htm>



Vern Kunes, N2YZS, receiving the good news that he passed his Extra Class exam

Interlock Rochester Open House

By Mark Manning, KD2ACP
VP of Interlock Rochester

Some of you have stopped in for a visit or heard us on the airwaves as K2HAX. But we wanted to let fellow Hams know that we're throwing our first official open house to celebrate moving into a new and improved space at 1115 East Main Street in Rochester, Suite 200, Door 7. We'd love to see Hams come out on March 16th to visit.

For those of you who haven't heard, hackerspaces are an idea that has taken off nationally. In its simplest form, it's a place where us geeks can come together, learn, work, build, and play in a space designed for us. Interlock Rochester is a non-profit hackerspace started two years ago as a place for all kinds of hackers to develop whatever interests they had related to computers, electronics, art, science, amateur radio or whatever. A few months ago, we needed to expand to keep up with all of our members' interest.

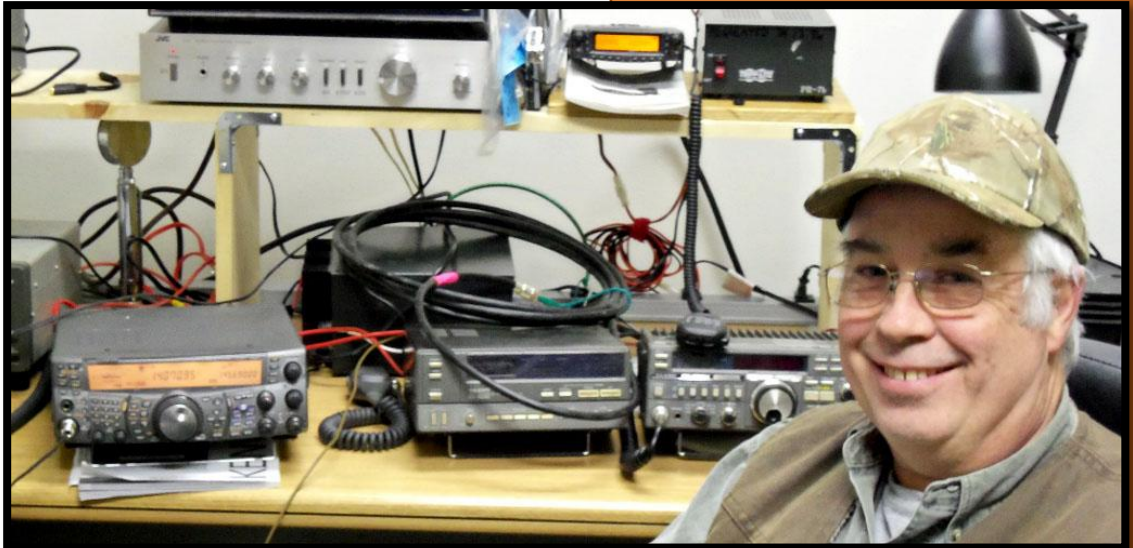
Our new space has given us enough room to have an area dedicated to amateur radio. We've even convinced our landlord to let us put an antenna on the roof. We're currently running with a trap dipole and G5RV for HF and a J-pole for UHF/VHF. The station equipment includes HF rigs and VHF equipment. Our electronics bench lets folks work on discrete components and surface mount technology. Some of our members are working on an SDR and an Arduino-based LC meter.

Besides Ham activities, we have members interested in 3D printing, electronics, networking, lock picking, wood working, computer security, metal working, and whatever else someone walks in the door to work on that day. We're also planning on doing classes and events open to the public in the near future.

So Friday March 16th, we'll have food and drinks to snack on and show off our new space. We'll be hanging out and doing little presentations throughout the night on ham radio, lock picking, amateur electronics, and 3D printing. And of course, it's free! We'd love to see you come down and show your support. Please RSVP even if you're considering coming: <http://interlockopenhouse.eventbrite.com>. You can check out our main website here: <http://www.interlockroc.org>.



Interlock Rochester's new Hackerspace



Ham Radio is well represented at Interlock Rochester

The Amateur's Code

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

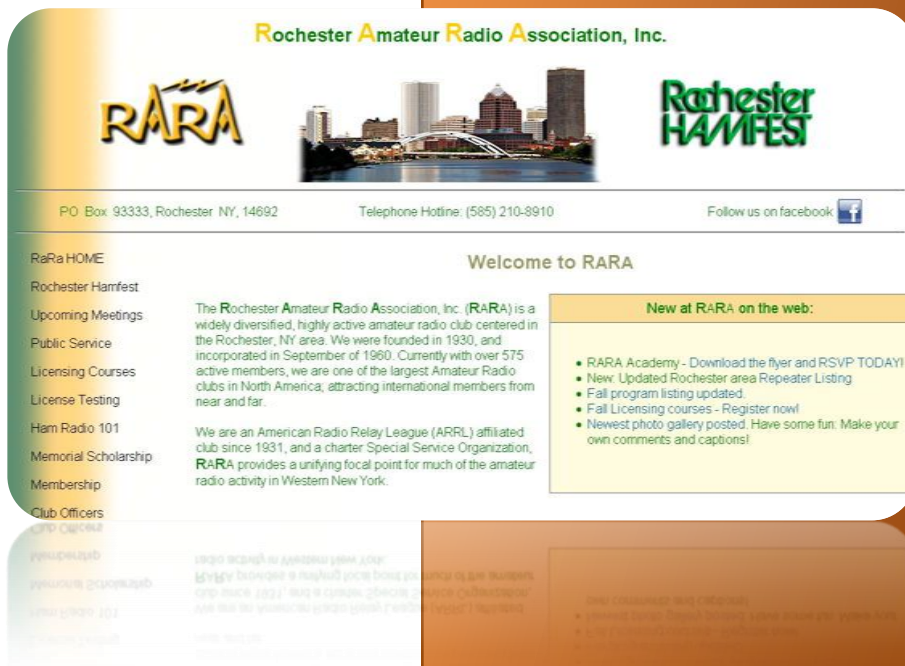
The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
LOYAL	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
PROGRESSIVE	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.
FRIENDLY	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
BALANCED	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
PATRIOTIC	With station and skill always ready for service to country and community

Visit the RARA Website!

Did you know that your club's website (www.rochesterham.org) offers these features and more?

- ✓ Photos of meetings & events (you might be in there!)
- ✓ Info on upcoming meetings/programs
- ✓ Rochester Hamfest information!
- ✓ Online membership & renewal
- ✓ Track and redeem your Reward points
- ✓ Public service info & sign-up
- ✓ VE testing info
- ✓ Back issues of the *Rag* in PDF
- ✓ Officer contact info
- ✓ List of past presidents (how many do you remember?)
- ✓ Online membership directory
- ✓ Order RARA logo products (hats, shirts, and mugs)
- ✓ Useful Internet links
- ✓ Ham Radio 101—tons of tutorial info, plus net & repeater listings



For Sale

Offered for sale is an Amelco R-390A/URR mil-spec receiver, Serial # 1389. As can be seen in the photos it is in great shape. All knobs move and the last time the radio was used (approx. 6 months ago) it was in working condition. There is a small dent in the top cover as seen in the upper right of the photo, and it does come with the military user manual. The manual is a Navelex Technical manual, Operation, Maintenance, and Installation instructions with parts list.

Any questions please ask, I have no way of testing this radio so all I can say is that 6 months ago when I picked it up it was used to receive the national time signal (WWV) and has been properly stored since then. I am Asking \$600. Please contact me, Mike Bennage, for more information at bennagefarms@hotmail.com. Radio is located in the Rochester area.



Free Cushcraft Antenna

I have a well-used, but never abused, Cushcraft 13B2 antenna for the taking. No charge. The antenna is 20 years old but is still in pretty good condition. The recipient would need to accept it fully assembled. It has some SWR problems at 50 watts, possibly with the T-match and/or the balun and may benefit from some adjusting by someone who knows antennas. I will hold it until the end of April if anyone wants it. For more information, please contact Gerry Pirie at staveisland@gmail.com.

Wanted: PA Speakers

The Fishermen's Net Youth Ham Club (KC2RHY) in Mount Morris, NY needs four to six 70-volt PA speakers and one or two PA mics for "The Bridge" After School Program. We have a PA amp. and just need the speakers and mics. We can use either ceiling or wall-mount speakers. Tax receipts can be issued. Please contact Jim Sutton, N2OPS at jim@otrym.org if you can help.

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RaRa Hotline (585) 210-8910

Website: www.rochesterham.org

OFFICERS:

President: Frank Schramm, WB2PYD 267-9278
wb2pyd@arri.net
Vice-President: Bill Marinucci, WB2GHC 889-9008
wb2ghc@arri.net
Secretary: Len Crellin, KC2PCD 267-9805
kc2pcd@rochester.rr.com
Treasurer: Ken Hall, W2KRH 289-3801
ken@w2krh.com

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wb2sxy@arri.net
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kc2loc@arri.net
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Rochester Area Radio Club Contacts

Antique Wireless Association (AWA)

Lynn Bisha, W2BSN lbisha@rochester.rr.com

Drumlins Amateur Radio Club Ltd. (DARC)

Rich Hamill, KC2TNJ tinker@rochester.rr.com

Fisherman's Net Amateur Radio Club

Jim Sutton, N2OPS jim@otrym.org

Genesee Valley Amateur Radio Assn

Bill Boyd, N3DSP N3DSP@lafireline.net

Monroe County ARES

Jim DiTucci, N2IXD n2ixd@arri.net

Rochester Amateur Radio Association (RaRa)

Frank Schramm, WB2PYD wb2pyd@arri.net

Rochester DX Association (RDXA)

Paul Kolacki, K2FX usafpilot@rochester.rr.com

Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA)

Brad Allen, KB2CHY kb2chy@frontiernet.net

Rochester VHF Group (RVHFG)

John Stevens, WB2BYP wb2byp@arri.net

Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC)

Steve Benton, WB2VMR sbenton2@rochester.rr.com

XEROX Amateur Radio Club (XARC)

Ned Asam, W2NED w2ned@frontiernet.net

April Rag Deadline
March 15, 2012

